Setting up of medical institutes on IIT and IIM pattern

*160. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to establish medical and other health institutes of excellence on the pattern of IITs and IIMs; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard, with revenue implications and the time-frame for establishing such institutes in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the policy of good public health professionals in the country, it is being explored as to how to strengthen the architecture of public health in India by establishing new institutes of public health of excellence of the level of IITs and IIMs and upscaling the existing institutions which provide training in public health. In this context, a two day National Consultation on "Institutes of Public Health in India: Moving from Concept to Reality" was held on 16-17 September, 2004, to workout modalities to take this initiative forward. Any definite plan of action has not yet been finalized.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Cattle breeding farms

840. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Central cattle breeding farms which are now functional in the country and their location, station-wise;

(b) the present status of their functioning;

(c) whether there is any proposal to close down some of them including the one at Chiplima in Orissa; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) There are seven Central Cattle Breeding Farms in the country located at Andeshnagar, District Lakhimpur Kheri

(Uttar Pradesh); Alamadhi, Avadi Disrict (Tamil Nadu); Chiplima, Sambalpur Disrict (Orissa); Sunabeda, Koraput District (Orissa); Hessarghatta, Bangalore (Karnataka); Suratgarh, Sriganganagar District (Rajasthan) and Dhamrod, Surat Disrict (Gujarat).

(b) All the seven farms are functional at present.

(c) Three farms located at Almadhi (Tamil Nadu), Chiplima (Orissa) and Suratgarh (Rajasthan) have been proposed for closure by three Expert Committees.

(d) Closure has been recommended in view of extensive encroachments of farms land, poor off-take of animals produced in these farms, prevailing disease status; below standard performance of cattle on account of inadequate fodder and water availability at these farms.

Sugarcane production

†841. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of sugarcane has been declining in the country for last few years;

(b) if so, the production of sugarcane in 2004-05 in comparison to the production during the year 2000-01;

(c) whether it is also a fact that per hectare production of sugarcane has decreased during above years;

(d) if so, year-wise production rate of sugarcane during above two years; and

(e) the reasons for low level of total production of sugarcane?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) The production of sugarcane reached an all time record level of 299.3 million tonnes in 1999-2000 and then gradually declined over the subsequent years.

(b) While in 2000-01 the production of sugarcane was 296.0 million

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.